

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 839

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the possession and administration of an epinephrine auto-injector by certain entities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 773.014, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 773.014. ADMINISTRATION OF EPINEPHRINE BY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL.

SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 773.0145 to read as follows:

Sec. 773.0145. POSSESSION AND ADMINISTRATION OF EPINEPHRINE BY CERTAIN ENTITIES. (a) This section applies to:

(1) an amusement park, as defined by Section 46.035, Penal Code;

(2) a child-care facility, as defined by Section 42.002, Human Resources Code;

(3) a day camp or youth camp, as defined by Section 141.002;

(4) an institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code;

(5) a restaurant, as defined by Section 17.821, Business & Commerce Code;

(6) a sports venue, as defined by Section 504.151,

1 Local Government Code;

2 (7) a youth center, as defined by Section 481.134; or

3 (8) any other entity that the executive commissioner
4 by rule designates as an entity that would benefit from the
5 possession and administration of epinephrine auto-injectors.

6 (b) An entity described by Subsection (a) may adopt a policy
7 regarding the maintenance, administration, and disposal of
8 epinephrine auto-injectors.

9 (c) A policy adopted under Subsection (b) must provide that
10 only an entity employee or volunteer who is authorized and trained
11 may administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person who is
12 reasonably believed to be experiencing anaphylaxis on the premises
13 of the entity.

14 (d) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules regarding
15 the maintenance, administration, and disposal of an epinephrine
16 auto-injector by an entity subject to a policy adopted under
17 Subsection (b). The rules must establish:

18 (1) the number of epinephrine auto-injectors and the
19 dosages of the auto-injectors available at each entity;

20 (2) the process for each entity to verify the
21 inventory of epinephrine auto-injectors at regular intervals for
22 expiration and replacement; and

23 (3) the amount of training required for an entity
24 employee or volunteer to administer an epinephrine auto-injector.

25 (e) Each entity that adopts a policy under Subsection (b)
26 must have at least one entity employee or volunteer authorized and
27 trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector present during

1 all hours the entity is open to the public or to the population that
2 the entity serves, as applicable.

3 (f) The supply of epinephrine auto-injectors at each entity
4 must:

5 (1) be stored in accordance with the manufacturer's
6 instructions in a secure location; and

7 (2) be easily accessible to an entity employee or
8 volunteer authorized and trained to administer an epinephrine
9 auto-injector.

10 (g) Each entity that adopts a policy under Subsection (b) is
11 responsible for training the entity's employees and volunteers in
12 the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector.

13 (h) Employee and volunteer training under this section
14 must:

15 (1) include information on:

16 (A) the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis;

17 (B) the recommended dosages for an adult and a
18 child;

19 (C) the administration of an epinephrine
20 auto-injector;

21 (D) the implementation of emergency procedures,
22 if necessary, after administering an epinephrine auto-injector;
23 and

24 (E) the proper disposal of used or expired
25 epinephrine auto-injectors; and

26 (2) be completed annually in a formal training session
27 or through online education.

1 (i) Each entity shall maintain records on the training
2 completed by each employee and volunteer under this section.

3 (j) A physician or person who has been delegated
4 prescriptive authority under Chapter 157, Occupations Code, may
5 prescribe epinephrine auto-injectors in the name of an entity.

6 (k) A physician or other person who prescribes epinephrine
7 auto-injectors under Subsection (j) shall provide the entity with a
8 standing order for the administration of an epinephrine
9 auto-injector to a person reasonably believed to be experiencing
10 anaphylaxis.

11 (l) The standing order under Subsection (k) is not required
12 to be patient-specific, and the epinephrine auto-injector may be
13 administered to a person without a previously established
14 physician-patient relationship.

15 (m) Notwithstanding any other law, supervision or
16 delegation by a physician is considered adequate if the physician:

17 (1) periodically reviews the order; and

18 (2) is available through direct telecommunication as
19 needed for consultation, assistance, and direction.

20 (n) For purposes of Subsection (m)(2), a person who has been
21 delegated prescriptive authority under Chapter 157, Occupations
22 Code, is not engaged in the unauthorized practice of telemedicine
23 or acting outside the person's scope of practice by consulting a
24 physician as provided by that subsection when prescribing an
25 epinephrine auto-injector in accordance with this section.

26 (o) An order issued under this section must contain:

27 (1) the name and signature of the prescriber;

1 (2) the name of the entity to which the order is
2 issued;

3 (3) the quantity of epinephrine auto-injectors to be
4 obtained and maintained under the order; and

5 (4) the date of issue.

6 (p) A pharmacist may dispense an epinephrine auto-injector
7 to an entity without requiring the name or any other identifying
8 information relating to the user.

9 (q) A person who in good faith takes, or fails to take, any
10 action under this section is immune from civil or criminal
11 liability or disciplinary action resulting from that action or
12 failure to act, including:

13 (1) issuing an order for epinephrine auto-injectors;

14 (2) supervising or delegating the administration of an
15 epinephrine auto-injector;

16 (3) possessing, maintaining, storing, or disposing of
17 an epinephrine auto-injector;

18 (4) prescribing an epinephrine auto-injector;

19 (5) dispensing an epinephrine auto-injector;

20 (6) administering, or assisting in administering, an
21 epinephrine auto-injector;

22 (7) providing, or assisting in providing, training,
23 consultation, or advice in the development, adoption, or
24 implementation of policies, guidelines, rules, or plans; or

25 (8) undertaking any other act permitted or required
26 under this section.

27 (r) The immunities and protections provided by this section

1 are in addition to other immunities or limitations of liability
2 provided by law.

3 (s) Notwithstanding any other law, this section does not
4 create a civil, criminal, or administrative cause of action or
5 liability or create a standard of care, obligation, or duty that
6 provides a basis for a cause of action for an act or omission under
7 this section.

8 (t) A cause of action does not arise from an act or omission
9 described by this section.

10 (u) An entity and entity employees or volunteers are immune
11 from suit resulting from an act, or failure to act, under this
12 section, including an act or failure to act under related policies
13 and procedures.

14 (v) An act or failure to act by entity employees or
15 volunteers under this section, including an act or failure to act
16 under related policies and procedures, is the exercise of judgment
17 or discretion on the part of the entity employee or volunteer and is
18 not considered to be a ministerial act for purposes of liability of
19 the entity.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.